

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image interpolating method, wherein low resolution pixels  $Y_{ij}$  of an image are zoomed to high resolution pixels  $Y_{2i,2j}$ , comprising:

receiving the low resolution pixels  $Y_{ij}$ ;

5 determining a homogenous area and an edge area of the image based on pixel differences of the pixels  $Y_{2i,2j}$  in comparing with a threshold;

interpolating the low resolution pixels belonging to the homogenous area into the high resolution pixels by a first interpolating algorithm; and

10 interpolating the low resolution pixels belonging to the edge area into the high resolution pixels by a second interpolating algorithm.

2. The image interpolating method of claim 1, in the step of determining the homogenous area and the edge area of the image, wherein three variables of

$$\Delta Y_1 = |Y_{2i,2j} - Y_{2i+2p,2j+2q}|, \quad p, q \in \{(0,1), (1,0)\},$$

$$\Delta Y_2 = |Y_{2i+2,2j} - Y_{2i,2j+2}|, \text{ and}$$

15  $\Delta Y_3 = |Y_{2i,2j} - Y_{2i+2,2j+2}|$

are used to determine whether the homogenous area or the edge area by a condition set of:

if  $\Delta Y_1 < \text{the threshold}$  then

the pixel  $Y_{2i+p,2j+q}$  is in the homogenous area

20 else

the pixel  $Y_{2i+p,2j+q}$  is in the edge area as one of edge pixels;

if  $\Delta Y_2 < \text{the threshold}$  and  $\Delta Y_3 < \text{the threshold}$  then

the pixel  $Y_{2i+1,2j+1}$  is in the homogenous area

else if  $\Delta Y_2 < \text{the threshold}$  then

the pixel  $Y_{2i+1,2j+1}$  is in the homogenous area

else if  $\Delta Y_3 < \text{the threshold}$  then

the pixel  $Y_{2i+1,2j+1}$  is in the homogenous area

5 else

the pixel  $Y_{2i+1,2j+1}$  is in the edge area as one of edge pixels.

3. The image interpolating method of claim 2, wherein the first interpolating algorithm includes obtaining the pixel  $Y_{2i+p,2j+q}$  by calculating  $(Y_{2i,2j} + Y_{2i+2p,2j+2q}) / 2$ .

10 4. The image interpolating method of claim 2, wherein the first interpolating algorithm includes:

when  $\Delta Y_2 < \text{the threshold}$  and  $\Delta Y_3 < \text{the threshold}$ ,

the pixel  $Y_{2i+1,2j+1}$  is obtained by calculating  $Y_{2i+1,2j+1} = (Y_{2i+2,2j} + Y_{2i,2j+2}) / 2$  if the  $\Delta Y_2$  less than  $\Delta Y_3$ ; and

15 the pixel  $Y_{2i+1,2j+1}$  is obtained by calculating  $Y_{2i+1,2j+1} = (Y_{2i,2j} + Y_{2i+2,2j+2}) / 2$  if the  $\Delta Y_3$  is less than  $\Delta Y_2$ .

5. The image interpolating method of claim 2, wherein the first interpolating algorithm includes:

when only  $\Delta Y_2 < \text{the threshold}$  for the  $\Delta Y_2$  and the  $\Delta Y_3$ , the pixel  $Y_{2i+1,2j+1}$  is obtained by calculating  $(Y_{2i+2,2j} + Y_{2i,2j+2}) / 2$ .

20 6. The image interpolating method of claim 2, wherein the first interpolating algorithm includes:

when only  $\Delta Y_3 < \text{the threshold}$  for the  $\Delta Y_2$  and the  $\Delta Y_3$ , the pixel  $Y_{2i+1,2j+1}$  is obtained by calculating  $(Y_{2i,2j} + Y_{2i+2,2j+2}) / 2$ .

7. The image interpolating method of claim 1, wherein the first interpolating algorithm includes:

when the pixels  $Y_{2i, 2j}$  in the homogenous area, the pixels  $Y_{2i, 2j}$  are interpolated by a linear interpolation algorithm.

5 8. The image interpolating method of claim 2, wherein the second interpolating algorithm includes interpolating the pixels  $Y_{2i, 2j}$  along a direction having a minimum difference in the neighboring pixels.

9. The image interpolating method of claim 8, wherein the neighboring pixels of one of the pixels  $Y_{2i, 2j}$  does not include a determined edge pixel.

10 10. The image interpolating method of claim 8, wherein when the minimum difference  $\text{diff}_{\min}$  is determined by taking a minimum of four differences of

$$\text{diff}_1 = |Y_{2i-1, 2j} - Y_{2i+1, 2j}|,$$

$$\text{diff}_2 = |Y_{2i-1, 2j-1} - Y_{2i+1, 2j+1}|,$$

$$\text{diff}_3 = |Y_{2i, 2j-1} - Y_{2i, 2j+1}|, \text{ and}$$

15  $\text{diff}_4 = |Y_{2i+1, 2j-1} - Y_{2i-1, 2j+1}|,$

wherein the differences including one of the edge pixels is skipped.

11. The image interpolating method of claim 8, wherein the pixel  $Y_{ij}$  is obtained by calculating  $(Y_{2i-1, 2j} + Y_{2i+1, 2j}) / 2$  at a direction with the minimum pixel difference.

12. An image interpolating algorithm for an image, wherein low resolution pixels  $Y_{i, j}$  of the image are zoomed to high resolution pixels  $Y_{2i, 2j}$ , wherein three variables of  $\Delta Y_1 = |Y_{2i, 2j} - Y_{2i+2p, 2j+2q}|$ ,  $\Delta Y_2 = |Y_{2i+2, 2j} - Y_{2i, 2j+2}|$ , and  $\Delta Y_3 = |Y_{2i, 2j} - Y_{2i+2, 2j+2}|$ ,  $p, q \in \{(0,1), (1,0)\}$  are used, the image interpolating algorithm comprising:

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determining at least one of edge pixel and interpolating the pixels  $Y_{2i}, 2j$  if the pixel to be interpolated is not the edge pixel by a first algorithm as follows:

if  $\Delta Y_1 < \text{a threshold}$  then

$$Y_{2i+p, 2j+q} = (Y_{2i, 2j} + Y_{2i+2p, 2j+2q}) / 2$$

5 else

$Y_{2i+p, 2j+q}$  are the edge pixel

if  $\Delta Y_2 < \text{the threshold}$  and  $\Delta Y_3 < \text{the threshold}$  then

$$\Delta Y_{\min} = \min \{ \Delta Y_2, \Delta Y_3 \}$$

if  $\Delta Y_{\min} = \Delta Y_2$

10 
$$Y_{2i+1, 2j+1} = (Y_{2i+2, 2j} + Y_{2i, 2j+2}) / 2$$

else

$$Y_{2i+1, 2j+1} = (Y_{2i, 2j} + Y_{2i+2, 2j+2}) / 2$$

else if  $\Delta Y_2 < \text{the threshold}$  then

$$Y_{2i+1, 2j+1} = (Y_{2i+2, 2j} + Y_{2i, 2j+2}) / 2$$

15 else if  $\Delta Y_3 < \text{the threshold}$  then

$$Y_{2i+1, 2j+1} = (Y_{2i, 2j} + Y_{2i+2, 2j+2}) / 2$$

else

$Y_{2i+1, 2j+1}$  is one of the edge pixel.

20 13. The image interpolating algorithm of claim 1, further comprising interpolating the edge pixels according to a second algorithm as follows:

calculating a plurality of pixel differences of

$$\text{diff}_1 = |Y_{2i-1, 2j} - Y_{2i+1, 2j}|,$$

$$\text{diff}_2 = |Y_{2i-1, 2j-1} - Y_{2i+1, 2j+1}|,$$

$$\text{diff}_3 = |Y_{2i,2j-1} - Y_{2i,2j+1}|, \text{ and}$$

$$\text{diff}_4 = |Y_{2i+1,2j-1} - Y_{2i+1,2j+1}|,$$

wherein the differences including one of the edge pixels is skipped;

finding a minimum of the pixel differences; and

- 5        interpolating the pixel  $Y_{2i, 2j} = (Y_{2i-1,2j} + Y_{2i+1,2j}) / 2$  at a direction with the minimum pixel difference.